1	BEFORE THE
2	ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION
3	IN THE MATTER OF:
4	BRYAN McGRAW ) -vs- ) No. 09-0196
5	)
6	NORTHERN ILLINOIS GAS COMPANY )  d/b/a NICOR GAS COMPANY )  Complaint as to billing/charges )
7	in Phoenix, Illinois )
8	Chicago, Illinois
9	March 12, 2007
10	Met, pursuant to notice, at
11	10 o'clock a.m.
12	BEFORE:
13	MR. JOHN RILEY, Administrative Law Judge
14	APPEARANCES:
15	
16	MR. BRYAN McGRAW 454 East 90th Street Chicago,Illinois
17	appearing pro se;
18	MR. DOUG RIVERA
19	1844 Ferry Road Naperville, Illinois 60563
20	appearing for Nicor
21	
22	

- 1 JUDGE RILEY: Pursuant to the direction of the
- 2 Illinois Commerce Commission, I call Docket 09-0196.
- 3 This is a complaint by Brian McGraw vs. Northern
- 4 Illinois Gas Company, d/b/a Nicor Gas Company, as to
- 5 billing charges in Phoenix, Illinois.
- 6 Mr. McGraw, you are proceeding
- 7 without counsel at this time?
- 8 MR. McGRAW: Yes, I am.
- 9 JUDGE RILEY: And your correct address right now
- 10 is 454 East 90th Street in Chicago?
- 11 MR. McGRAW: Yes, it is.
- 12 JUDGE RILEY: Thank you.
- 13 And, counsel, would you enter an
- 14 appearance for the record. State your name and
- 15 office address.
- 16 MR. RIVERA: Sure. Doug Rivera with Nicor,
- 17 1844 Ferry Road, Naperville, Illinois, 60563. Phone
- 18 number is 630-388-2457.
- 19 JUDGE RILEY: This is a pre-hearing conference.
- 20 And, Mr. McGraw, this is an informal stage; yet,
- 21 this is not an evidentiary hearing, but I just
- 22 wanted to clarify a few things.

- 1 You are the owner of the building at
- 2 563 East 155th Street?
- 3 MR. McGRAW: Yes, I am.
- 4 JUDGE RILEY: And you have had a tenant there
- 5 obviously who had services in his or her name?
- 6 MR. McGRAW: Yes, to my knowledge. The tenant
- 7 was there when I bought the building. The tenants
- 8 -- all the tenants were there, and they were there
- 9 subsequent, and, well, I had a lease agreement with
- 10 all the tenants, okay, so I had no dealings with
- 11 Nicor Gas bills in the building.
- 12 JUDGE RILEY: So they all had gas in their own
- 13 names?
- 14 MR. McGRAW: Right, like I say, as far as I
- 15 know.
- 16 JUDGE RILEY: But you never got any bills in your
- 17 name for any of the units?
- 18 MR. McGRAW: Well, they sent me -- they sent me
- 19 bills, and when they first sent me a bill, I said I
- 20 don't have Nicor Gas bills, but they continued to
- 21 send them to me, So all I can do is tell the service
- 22 person I shouldn't have had any bills. I never

- 1 applied for Nicor Gas service ever.
- JUDGE RILEY: Okay.
- 3 MR. McGRAW: Never did I once apply for Nicor Gas
- 4 service and nor did I ask for any gas to be cut on
- 5 in my name at that address.
- 6 JUDGE RILEY: Okay. But they were sending you
- 7 the bills anyway?
- 8 MR. McGRAW: Yes.
- 9 JUDGE RILEY: They had your name on the bill?
- 10 MR. McGRAW: They had my name on the bill. He
- 11 had my name on the bill.
- 12 JUDGE RILEY: Now is this just one of the tenants
- 13 we are talking about here?
- 14 MR. McGRAW: Right. This particular one, because
- 15 -- in conversation because they sent me like three
- 16 or four bills. I forget what the number was.
- 17 JUDGE RILEY: Did they specify different unit
- 18 numbers?
- 19 MR. McGRAW: No, they just all had bills. They
- 20 just all were bills, and they were forwarded, four
- 21 bills -- like four gas bills at the building.
- 22 JUDGE RILEY: It's a four unit?

- 1 MR. McGRAW: Right. So they sent me the bill,
- 2 so I was like, well, these the tenants. I'm talking
- 3 to customer service. I'm like, fine, then I just
- 4 kept them, so then, you know, I went and I filed
- 5 with the CUB at first, and then they started talking
- 6 to them, and so then they said send me these leases,
- 7 so I sent them these leases.
- 8 JUDGE RILEY: So you had a lease agreement with
- 9 all these --
- 10 MR. McGRAW: Yes. I sent the leases over. So,
- 11 well, what happened was actually how it got to be a
- 12 real problem, because I wasn't really pursuing it.
- 13 They put it on my credit, which is injurious to me,
- 14 so they dumped the bills on my credit.
- 15 JUDGE RILEY: As if they were unpaid bills by
- 16 you?
- 17 MR. McGRAW: Exactly. They found me as the owner
- 18 of record in the public record, and so they dumped
- 19 the bills on my credit report. So now they have
- 20 injured me over the past, you know.
- 21 So I called them and I was like, look,
- 22 here's the tenants. I sent the leases in, and so

- 1 they -- so then they took -- they took a couple of
- 2 them I think off or whatever, but then the ones they
- 3 said they can't find the person, I said that's not
- 4 my issue. I said I sent you the leases, and so they
- 5 still continued to send me these bills, and I was
- 6 like, no, here's the lease of the person that's in
- 7 the unit.
- 8 Okay. So I even went as far as I said,
- 9 well, you know, I'll confront the person about it,
- 10 you know. So I went over to the tenants and said,
- 11 you know, you got these gas bills or whatever, you
- 12 know, what have you been doing, and then, you know,
- 13 a month later, you know, this person leaves.
- So I tell them at that point, which was
- 15 December or January of 2008, or January, or
- 16 something like that, I tell them, well, the guy that
- 17 was here -- I said just like I'm talking to you, I
- 18 confronted him about it -- I said he is gone and
- 19 left now, I said, obviously because of this whole
- 20 thing.
- I said I don't have any problem with
- 22 taking it over from this date, you know, I was like,

- 1 but you need to clear this stuff off my credit.
- Well, okay, they continued to put this
- 3 on, so I was not going to send them any payment
- 4 because that would have been like acknowledging this
- 5 whole entire bill, so I told them that, and they
- 6 didn't want to. That's why I'm here at this point.
- 7 I don't have a problem with taking it
- 8 from, like I said, December of 2008, you know, on,
- 9 because the person is gone now, and I haven't put
- 10 anybody else in the unit. Okay. So -- but what my
- 11 problem is is that they have injured me to the point
- 12 on my credit because it's affecting my ability to do
- 13 any business. I mean -- I mean that --
- 14 JUDGE RILEY: I --
- 15 MR. McGRAW: -- I have had gas service from
- 16 multiple units across the city and I never had --
- 17 well, I have had issues, but I have never had an
- 18 issue like this where anybody's gone in and looked
- 19 me up in the public record and say, well, you are
- 20 the owner of the building then send you something.
- 21 JUDGE RILEY: It's my understanding that
- 22 apparently none of the tenants that you had when you

- 1 purchased the building none of them had gas service
- 2 in their own names then if you were getting the
- 3 bills.
- 4 MR. McGRAW: No, that's what I'm saying. They
- 5 did, because they were -- because when I called,
- 6 they looked them up and then said, oh, yes, and so
- 7 it looks like they were doing something shady with
- 8 the gas company, my understanding, because it was
- 9 two or three peoples' names or whatever in there
- 10 because then they found three of the tenants --
- 11 JUDGE RILEY: Right.
- 12 MR. McGRAW: -- then they couldn't find this one,
- 13 so I'm like --
- 14 JUDGE RILEY: If the bills that you got if they
- 15 were sending you the bills, they were putting your
- 16 name on even though they had service agreements with
- 17 these other tenants? This is what I don't
- 18 understand.
- 19 MR. RIVERA: I can explain that if --
- 20 JUDGE RILEY: All right. Go ahead.
- 21 MR. RIVERA: -- you like us to.
- 22 He contacted -- none of the tenants had

- 1 contacted us. He had contacted us to say we have
- 2 leases. He provided us with the leases. We were
- 3 able to verify three of the units with the tenants
- 4 and changed those three over to the tenants' names.
- 5 The fourth one we're not able to verify
- 6 public records for a Steve Thomas. We requested if
- 7 you can give us Mr. Thomas' Social Security Number,
- 8 have Mr. Thomas contact us to give us that
- 9 information. All we need to do then is verify
- 10 through Mr. Thomas that he, in fact, was
- 11 responsible, because he provided us with a lease
- 12 that was dated prior to his ownership with
- 13 Mr. Thomas but with no unit number, so we're not
- 14 able to verify that final unit.
- We have not been able to go out and get
- 16 any reads to verify that it runs to -- I believe
- 17 it's a basement unit, and I'll let Ms. Mitchell also
- 18 discuss that, because she's done all the research,
- 19 but that's why it was never set up. We followed up
- 20 with him and then we set up the three out of the
- 21 four.
- 22 JUDGE RILEY: You switched three of the units

- 1 over to the tenants' names?
- 2 MR. RIVERA: Currently we were able to verify
- 3 three of four.
- 4 JUDGE RILEY: Is that your understanding?
- 5 MR. McGRAW: No.
- 6 JUDGE RILEY: Let me get a time frame. When did
- 7 you purchase the building?
- 8 MR. McGRAW: I bought the building in 2005.
- 9 JUDGE RILEY: 2005.
- 10 MR. McGRAW: I bought it at the beginning of
- 11 2005. All the tenants were there already. Okay.
- 12 So what happened was, as Mr. Rivera stated right,
- 13 the tenants had bills. They had bills, but for
- 14 whatever reason, right, whether it was due to, they
- 15 got shut-off notices, unbeknownst to me or whatever.
- The only time I got bills was when I
- 17 spoke to customer service. They said we looked it
- 18 up in public records. That's how they started
- 19 sending bills to me.
- 20 I never once contacted Nicor at any
- 21 time and said I need to put service in my name.
- 22 Okay. They said they looked me up in public

- 1 records.
- Okay. So then I called them and I
- 3 said, well, okay, I'm getting these bills or
- 4 whatever, and granted I didn't think too much of it.
- 5 I know I don't have bills, so they inadvertently
- 6 billed me.
- 7 So then they said -- well, they looked
- 8 it up. They had one tenant had everything perfect
- 9 in their name. There was no issue with them.
- 10 Another tenant it was, quote, unquote, when I talked
- 11 to the customer service person, it was in legal, so
- 12 she couldn't tell me nothing about it, right. That
- 13 tenant -- is it okay to give their name or not give
- 14 their name?
- 15 JUDGE RILEY: That's not necessary right now.
- 16 MR. McGRAW: That tenant knew about it, because I
- 17 contacted that tenant, and then he said, yeah, I'm
- 18 in the process of whatever, some legal discussion
- 19 with them. I'm like fine.
- 20 The other tenant I contacted. I was
- 21 like now you have this tenant, right? And they say,
- 22 yeah, we looked back and their name's on here but

- 1 they haven't had service for three years, and I was
- 2 like, well, they have been in the building all this
- 3 time. Who did you have service in? And so then
- 4 they were like, oh, and so they then tried to bill
- 5 me for it, and I'm like, no. That's when they put
- 6 it back on that person. Well, that person
- 7 subsequently moved to Kentucky I guess running away
- 8 from their responsibilities.
- 9 Like I said, I don't have a problem
- 10 paying for what's due for me whatever I'm in control
- 11 of, but my issue, and, as I explained to them since
- 12 we're across the table, my issue is how you
- 13 deliberately injured me, right, and I've provided
- 14 you with the documentation. I don't have to have
- 15 the unit numbers on there to know who my tenants
- 16 are.
- 17 MR. RIVERA: Ms. Mitchell can comment.
- 18 MS. MITCHELL: But we have to have the unit
- 19 numbers on there to know which one your tenants
- 20 were. The leases that were brought to us just say
- 21 Steve Thomas and just the address. There were
- 22 tenants in question here.

- 1 MR. McGRAW: All of those leases are the same.
- 2 None of them have unit numbers on them, none of
- 3 them, and the only issue that you have is you
- 4 couldn't find the man in public records. That's not
- 5 my issue. That's really not my issue whether you
- 6 can find him in public records or not.
- 7 JUDGE RILEY: Let me hear from his witness.
- What is your name?
- 9 MS. MITCHELL: Kyra.
- 10 JUDGE RILEY: I'm sorry?
- 11 MS. MITCHELL: Kyra.
- 12 JUDGE RILEY: Please go ahead.
- 13 MS. MITCHELL: The other problem we had is that
- 14 public records show that Mr. McGraw purchased the
- 15 property in February of 2005. We have a lease that
- 16 was provided to us for a tenant that starts November
- 17 of 2004, but it has his name on this lease.
- 18 MR. McGRAW: Yes, and I can explain that.
- 19 JUDGE RILEY: All right.
- 20 MR. McGRAW: And can I explain that. When I
- 21 bought the building, the tenant had, you know, a
- 22 two-year lease, the first one, with the previous

- 1 owner, so I wrote him up in that same duration.
- I did buy it in 2005. I could have
- 3 wrote him up, but since he had a two-year lease, I
- 4 brought him up that way. That's why. Because all
- 5 the subsequent ones were, as you notice, one-year
- 6 leases.
- 7 MR. McGRAW: We have for two tenants --
- 8 MR. McGRAW: No. No.
- 9 MS. MITCHELL: The only two tenants in question
- 10 you mean going forward?
- 11 MR. McGRAW: Right, going forward all those were
- 12 subsequent leases. I wrote them up that way because
- 13 that's what he had with the previous owner.
- I'm like, okay, fine, so that's why his
- 15 lease was that way for that particular duration, you
- 16 know, but, I mean, like I say, well, just as -- I
- 17 mean, I have numerous properties. I mean, I'm sure
- 18 when you looked me up in public records you saw all
- 19 the gas accounts. I'm sure you know that. And I
- 20 have no problem paying my gas bills.
- So, I mean, like I said, I have tried
- 22 to, you know, work this out before we got to this

- 1 point, but I'm not going to -- my issue is how I was
- 2 injured, and that can't be repaired, and that's my
- 3 issue, because no matter what you do to take it off,
- 4 my FICO score will never recover over the time
- 5 period that you had this on here.
- 6 MR. RIVERA: I don't agree with that, but,
- 7 nonetheless, the issue is we can resolve it very
- 8 quickly if you can just give us Mr. Thomas' contact
- 9 information.
- 10 MR. McGRAW: I don't -- that's what I'm saying.
- 11 I don't have it. The number that I have for him --
- 12 the man is gone. Obviously, there was something --
- 13 you know, some issue with him, but the man is gone,
- 14 because as soon as I confronted him about it, a
- 15 couple of weeks later, he was gone, and I told them
- 16 when I called them. I said the man has left,
- 17 because I told them on the phone. I said, I'll go
- 18 confront the man about it, and then I come back and
- 19 the man is gone, and I was like, okay, he was paying
- 20 me in cash. I ain't got no problem with that. I
- 21 really don't.
- 22 So as far as I don't have a Social

- 1 Security Number for the man, because they were
- 2 all --
- 3 MR. RIVERA: Phone number contact?
- 4 MR. McGRAW: I don't have none of that.
- 5 JUDGE RILEY: Okay. My understanding is that
- 6 three of these units have been resolved. They have
- 7 been switched over to the names of the tenants being
- 8 billed.
- 9 MR. McGRAW: Right. Exactly.
- 10 JUDGE RILEY: It is this fourth unit that's
- 11 caused the problem?
- 12 MR. McGRAW: Right. Like I say, like I told them
- 13 from the day when that man left, I told them on the
- 14 phone, I said, I have no problem picking this bill
- 15 up from this point now.
- 16 JUDGE RILEY: Okay. Is it my understanding that
- 17 at no time did Nicor ever have the name of this
- 18 Mr. Thomas as a tenant?
- 19 MS. MITCHELL: No.
- 20 JUDGE RILEY: So he never got service in his
- 21 name?
- 22 MS. MITCHELL: No.

- 1 JUDGE RILEY: And is it Nicor's policy then to
- 2 default back to the owner when gas is being used?
- 3 MR. RIVERA: Yes.
- 4 JUDGE RILEY: So you have been billing Mr. McGraw
- 5 for gas usage at this particular unit ever since he
- 6 bought the building because you never had any other
- 7 name put on that account?
- 8 MR. RIVERA: That is correct.
- 9 JUDGE RILEY: And Mr. Thomas skipped town?
- 10 MR. McGRAW: Right. And, I mean, I got all his
- 11 receipts that he's -- I've got receipts and his
- 12 lease, and, like I said, he was there. He was
- 13 paying. I don't have any issue of checking on these
- 14 people with their bills, and, I mean, it's like I'm
- 15 under the assumption that he's paying his bills.
- 16 JUDGE RILEY: And what would satisfy Nicor with
- 17 regard to Mr. Thomas? Someway to get in touch with
- 18 him?
- 19 MR. RIVERA: Correct, if he could give us a
- 20 little more evidence that says he has these signed
- 21 receipts, a contact number or something that we can
- 22 verify.

- 1 MR. McGRAW: I can get --
- 2 JUDGE RILEY: You want some kind of written
- 3 verification Mr. Thomas was in that unit that
- 4 particular period of time?
- 5 MR. RIVERA: A notarized affidavit from
- 6 Mr. Thomas.
- 7 MR. McGRAW: I don't know where Mr. Thomas is.
- 8 MR. RIVERA: But that wasn't the question. I was
- 9 just telling him what we're looking for. I
- 10 understand what you are saying. I'm just saying the
- 11 type evidence that we're looking for in trying to
- 12 contact Mr. Thomas. You have got the receipts, and
- 13 if can you give us that, we'll be glad to review
- 14 those receipts. That kind of verifies the fact
- 15 there is a lease, then we can try to skip trace and
- 16 something that to verify that Mr. Thomas, you
- 17 know --
- 18 MR. McGRAW: Here are all the receipts every
- 19 month the man paid.
- 20 JUDGE RILEY: Does it have Mr. Thomas' signature
- 21 on that?
- MR. McGRAW: No. I signed the receipts, because

- 1 he's paying me. I signed the receipts. It's every
- 2 receipt the man paid.
- JUDGE RILEY: Those are rental receipts?
- 4 MR. McGRAW: Yes, rental receipts.
- 5 MR. RIVERA: We also need to be able to read the
- 6 meter to verify that it runs to the basement unit --
- 7 MS. MITCHELL: Right.
- 8 MR. RIVERA: -- because it's a master meter, so
- 9 if we can make arrangements to get into the building
- 10 to see the meter that it runs to this basement as
- 11 well, we might be able to get this resolved.
- 12 JUDGE RILEY: Okay.
- 13 MR. RIVERA: You have explained the date on the
- 14 lease which we didn't know why it was dated. I know
- 15 you explained it.
- 16 MR. McGRAW: What I'm saying, I guess my issue is
- 17 just like we are having this conversation, we didn't
- 18 have to get to this point because nobody even -- you
- 19 know, they asked me to send the lease and then they
- 20 contacted me and said, well, you know what, we can't
- 21 find him.
- Okay. This question you asked me

- 1 that's a two-minute question, one-minute question.
- 2 No one has been in any dialogue with me on anything
- 3 but they're just like we are just going to dump the
- 4 bills on you, and that's injuring me, because what
- 5 am I suppose to do as a person trying to live and
- 6 when I'm getting dinged and I can't do anything
- 7 because --
- 8 MR. RIVERA: Let me ask you this. You paid. You
- 9 made a payment in March of '07.
- 10 MR. McGRAW: Right, for \$195 exactly.
- 11 MR. RIVERA: No. It was for 1200.
- 12 MR. McGRAW: 1200?
- MR. RIVERA: So at that point --
- 14 MR. McGRAW: I wouldn't pay anybody \$1200.
- 15 MS. MITCHELL: You made the payment over the
- 16 phone.
- 17 MR. McGRAW: I didn't make any \$1200 payment.
- 18 MS. MITCHELL: Okay. Well, it was made over the
- 19 phone and it had your name on it.
- 20 MR. McGRAW: I can't make a \$1200 -- a 1200
- 21 payment over the phone, no.
- MS. MITCHELL: Okay. Someone made a payment to

- 1 this account of 1200.
- 2 MR. McGRAW: No.
- 3 MR. RIVERA: That was when you updated the
- 4 mailing address as well, so if that was you, our
- 5 point is --
- 6 MR. McGRAW: No, but what I'm saying I wouldn't
- 7 have paid -- I never paid you anything. I paid \$195
- 8 one time and they sent me that money back, because
- 9 when they called me, I was like, okay, here's \$195.
- 10 I don't know what's going on, then I started
- 11 checking and I'm like I don't have no bills, and
- 12 then they sent me that money back, but I never paid
- 13 you any money, because if I paid you \$1200 -- I
- 14 don't even know what bill it is. If I paid you
- 15 \$1200, right, then I want my money back, because I
- 16 know I didn't pay you \$1200. If you all are in
- 17 conjunction with Peoples Energy, and it may have
- 18 been a Peoples Energy account. Like I say, I have
- 19 got numerous accounts, but I have never paid you
- 20 \$1200, never.
- JUDGE RILEY: But you have a \$1200 payment on
- 22 your books?

- 1 MR. McGRAW: From me?
- 2 MS. MITCHELL: Yes. It says from Bryan.
- 3 MR. McGRAW: When?
- 4 MS. MITCHELL: March 13, 2007. It's the same day
- 5 we updated the mailing address.
- 6 MR. McGRAW: I wouldn't pay you \$1200 really
- 7 and --
- 8 MR. RIVERA: Somebody did.
- 9 MS. MITCHELL: Right.
- 10 MR. McGRAW: No, I didn't pay you \$1200.
- 11 JUDGE RILEY: You say this is for the building
- 12 account?
- MS. MITCHELL: Uh-huh.
- 14 JUDGE RILEY: Is that just a simple account for
- 15 that building?
- MR. McGRAW: Did they misapply to the wrong
- 17 account?
- 18 JUDGE RILEY: Excuse me. I'm sorry.
- 19 MS. MITCHELL: Not for the building, no, just for
- 20 the particular unit in question.
- 21 JUDGE RILEY: Okay. So there's four separate
- 22 accounts, and four separate units, and there's no

- 1 building account for the common area of the basement
- 2 or anything like that?
- 3 MS. MITCHELL: That's actually part of what we're
- 4 trying to accomplish.
- 5 MR. McGRAW: That unit does the billing. That's
- 6 why his rent was so low, but that unit does the
- 7 building.
- 8 JUDGE RILEY: I'm not sure what that means. What
- 9 unit are you talking about?
- 10 MR. McGRAW: Steve Thomas's unit. That basement
- 11 unit does like the hot water also for the building.
- 12 It does the hot water for the building, so that's
- 13 why his rent is so low.
- 14 JUDGE RILEY: To compensate him for the extra
- 15 payment for the hot water, he gets a break on his
- 16 rent?
- 17 MR. McGRAW: Exactly. Exactly. And see that's
- 18 -- it's like this is just all like, you know,
- 19 understanding like what's going on, because I'm
- 20 going to have to check. I didn't send you any
- 21 money.
- 22 MS. MITCHELL: It could have been Steve saying it

- 1 was you.
- 2 MR. McGRAW: Right. You see what I'm saying? I
- 3 didn't send you any money.
- 4 JUDGE RILEY: But did Nicor actually have \$1200
- 5 to post to its account?
- 6 MS. MITCHELL: Yes.
- JUDGE RILEY: So it was a real payment?
- 8 MS. MITCHELL: Yes.
- 9 MR. McGRAW: Can you tell me what account that
- 10 came out of?
- 11 MS. MITCHELL: I don't have that information, and
- 12 if it's not your account, I don't know if I can
- 13 necessarily give it.
- MR. McGRAW: What's the date? I'm going to
- 15 check, because I know I didn't send you any payment.
- MS. MITCHELL: March 13th.
- MR. McGRAW: Of this year?
- 18 MS. MITCHELL: 2007.
- MR. McGRAW: A \$1200 payment? That's news to me.
- 20 MS. MITCHELL: It could have been Steve.
- 21 JUDGE RILEY: What it seems to come down to then
- 22 is what Nicor wants to resolve the issue of this

- 1 last unit is some proof of -- some tangible proof
- 2 that Mr. Thomas actually lived there for a
- 3 particular period of time. You say you do have the
- 4 receipts?
- 5 MR. McGRAW: Right.
- 6 MR. RIVERA: You can make copies of that, and we
- 7 have got information, and we'll take a look at it.
- 8 I think we can get it resolved based upon the
- 9 evidence that you have with those receipts. We can
- 10 just take a look at them to verify the time period
- 11 and how you answered our questions as to the date of
- 12 the lease. I'm pretty sure we can get this resolved
- 13 and get rid of it.
- 14 JUDGE RILEY: Did you say Mr. Thomas ever signed
- 15 a lease while he was living there?
- 16 MR. McGRAW: Yes, they have got those. I sent
- 17 them all those.
- JUDGE RILEY: Why isn't the lease good?
- 19 MR. RIVERA: Again, I didn't have a unit number.
- 20 We weren't able to verify that it was for this
- 21 particular account, and the date was prior to him
- 22 having ownership of the building, so there was a

- 1 question as to is this a true and accurate lease,
- 2 you know.
- JUDGE RILEY: So, in other words, these were
- 4 given to them by the former owner?
- 5 MR. McGRAW: No. As I said --
- 6 MR. RIVERA: He changed it himself.
- 7 MR. McGRAW: I changed it myself, because when I
- 8 bought it, I back dated that particular one, but
- 9 every subsequent one was a year lease, which is why
- 10 I gave them that. In all the leases that I have
- 11 none of them have unit numbers. None of them have
- 12 unit numbers, and the other ones were plenty
- 13 sufficient, so I brought in the receipts to show
- 14 payment, that I brought in receipts today to show
- 15 payment. My concern is getting this off my credit.
- 16 JUDGE RILEY: Mr. McGraw, I don't know if the
- 17 Commission can do anything about that for you.
- 18 MR. McGRAW: That's what I'm saying. The bill
- 19 isn't mine, so they need to --
- 20 MR. RIVERA: That will be addressed.
- 21 JUDGE RILEY: Credit can be rehabilitated.
- 22 MR. McGRAW: That's my concern. Like I said from

- 1 that date, December 2008, I don't have no problem
- 2 paying you from that, because he ain't been there,
- 3 but now you need to rectify all that because I
- 4 wasn't going to send you any money --
- 5 MR. RIVERA: I understand.
- 6 MR. McGRAW: -- until you rectify, you know, all
- 7 that squared away, then we can move forward, but at
- 8 this point I'm -- you know, I don't, you know --
- 9 MR. RIVERA: We will give you -- Ms. Mitchell
- 10 will give you her contact information. We'll look
- 11 at the information. Again, I think we can get it
- 12 resolved.
- 13 JUDGE RILEY: Get copies of those receipts to
- 14 counsel or to Ms. Mitchell --
- 15 MR. McGRAW: Okay.
- 16 JUDGE RILEY: -- and let's see if they can't get
- 17 this resolved without going to hearing, because, I
- 18 mean, it comes down to a pretty fundamental issue as
- 19 to, you know, just establishing any way that you can
- 20 that Mr. Thomas was a resident of that unit for a
- 21 particular period of time.
- 22 MR. McGRAW: Right.

- 1 JUDGE RILEY: And you said Mr. Thomas cannot be
- 2 located?
- 3 MR. McGRAW: Right. This is the only information
- 4 that I have had of this person at the unit. I
- 5 don't -- I don't deal with them like that. So long
- 6 as he's paying me, I don't have no issue.
- 7 JUDGE RILEY: Right. That's where we are then.
- 8 MR. RIVERA: Yes.
- 9 JUDGE RILEY: Yes. Get copies of that -- of
- 10 those receipts to Nicor.
- 11 MR. McGRAW: Is there a copy machine here or --
- 12 JUDGE RILEY: There is, but I don't know I can
- 13 get you access to it. Would you be able to get to
- 14 Kinko's or something like that?
- 15 MR. McGRAW: That will cost. I could take them
- 16 to -- my office isn't far from here and I can give
- 17 you -- you know, I can put them on. I can get
- 18 copies of these.
- 19 JUDGE RILEY: My next instinct is to put this
- 20 over for about 30 days and see if that doesn't give
- 21 you enough time to resolve the whole matter,
- 22 because, as I said, you are down to a pretty

- 1 specific issue. Nicor seems to be cautiously
- 2 optimistic. Why don't we revisit this. How does
- 3 Wednesday, June 10th, look?
- 4 MR. RIVERA: That's fine.
- 5 MR. McGRAW: I'll make it work. I'll make it
- 6 work.
- 7 JUDGE RILEY: That will be for another status.
- 8 MR. RIVERA: Same time?
- 9 JUDGE RILEY: 10 a.m., right, see if the thing
- 10 can't be straightened out by then.
- 11 Okay. We will reconvene on Wednesday,
- 12 June 10th, at 10 a.m., and see where we are at that
- 13 point. Thank you.
- 14 (Whereupon, the above
- matter was adjourned,
- to be continued to
- 17 June 10, 2009 at
- 18 10 o'clock am.)
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